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EMERGENCY NET -  
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- See Page 16

# FLORIDA SKIP

VOL. 12 NO. 12

THE ALL-FLORIDA RADIO AMATEUR'S PUBLICATION

MAY/1969

Price 20c

## Ham Operator Receives Death Penalty

Eldon J. Ruff, WD6MCX, a "General Class" amateur radio operator, was sentenced to die in the gas chamber as a result of his conviction for accidentally operating in the Extra Class segment of the 80 meter band.

After deliberating the case for five minutes, Judge Woolworth Kringle handed down his decision with the opinion that "Ruff's record of 37 years as an amateur radio ham operator without ever receiving an FCC citation or OO report is not sufficient grounds to grant the leniency requested on behalf of his wife and twelve children."

In another decision given the same day, Judge Kringle ac-

quitted Boswell Farthington, KMH2184 a Sacramento Citizen Band operator. The Judge accused the FCC of invading Mr. Farthington's privacy in obtaining evidence which showed he (Farthington) used his CB transmitter with more than 15 kw input for broadcasting music, false distress signals, interference with emergency ship-to-shore rescue communications, and immoral solicitation.

The Judge commented, "The avocations of our private citizens are what have made this land of ours the great country that it is. Federal interference

of our private pursuits makes a mockery of individual freedom". The FCC Field engineers were then held under \$500,000 bail, each, on a charge

of Defamation of Civil Liberties. Their monitoring equipment was confiscated and destroyed.

(The Blur 4/1 69)

### DADE COUNTY PICNIC

The Dade County ARPSC (WB4LRY) is holding its first annual picnic, Sunday, May 18th at Morningside Park in Miami. (Turn East on 55th Terr. off Biscayne Blvd. It will be from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m.)

The picnic is open to any amateur and or his family. Bring your own lunch. Games, contests, rag chewing, swap gear, what have you. This is strictly an old fashion-type picnic - nothing fancy. Come out and say hello.

### IMPORTANT!!!

#### FIELD DAY NOTICE

This year, FLORIDA SKIP Field Day rules will be exactly the same as ARRL. A new BIG trophy is waiting for the highest score multi-class and the one transmitter class. We DO NOT want a copy of your logs, only your call, location, number of contacts and claimed score. The winner scores must appear in QST. See FD announcement elsewhere. Good luck.

### VK-ZL CONTEST WINNERS

We are happy to report the winners of the ZL-VK contest were both W's. ZL1HW advised Walt, W4DWN in Miami that W4HOS - Miami won first place in the phone portion and W4OMW - Greenville, N.C. the c.w. Congratulations men, don't forget to send in your Florida QSO PARTY logs to Box 591, Miami Springs, Fla. 33166 ASAP.

### SILENT KEYS

We are deeply sorry to report the passing of the following Florida amateurs.

WB4AJN, Bryon Hudson, Pensacola

W4EDP, Jim Bonnell, Miami (April 13)

Jim has been a long and faithful SKOP correspondent. See his final Flamingo Net and Dade Radio Club columns elsewhere. Jim will surely be missed by his so many friends.

### 1969 FIELD DAY

Field Day 1969, June 28 and 29, will retain all of the popular features introduced in 1968. Only one change takes place this year permitting those clubs who prefer to set up ahead of time to do so.

If set up time takes place before 1200 GMT June 28, the group may operate no more than 24 consecutive hours out of the 27 hour Field Day period. ARRL Affiliated Clubs have been mailed advance copies of the complete rules which, additionally, will appear in May QST. Entry forms are available without charge from ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, Connecticut 06111.

When writing for your logs, please indicate the number of transmitters planned to be operated simultaneously and the approximate number of contacts anticipated. Allow four weeks for regular mail.



THE GATOR AMATEUR Club, W4DFU of Gainesville went out to win their second Florida QSO Party Trophy. Here is WB4JN operating on 15 meters. Other operators were K4QHN, WB4IUJ, and WB4JAN. Their claimed score is 51,300 points. We hope to have a complete listing of all scores in this June issue. Nice going, gang. -W4DFU photo

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Deadline — 10th of month in Box 501, Miami Springs, Fla. 33166.

Any item in FLORIDA SKIP may be reprinted in any other amateur radio publication in the world with a credit line EXCEPT CARTOONS by WTGS/4. Written permission from the editor must be obtained before reprinting the cartoons.

—Editor

Dear Mabel XYL Award, c/o Skip, Box 501, Miami Springs, Fla.

### FLORIDA SKIP CORRESPONDENTS

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c/o Florida Skip, P. O. Box 501,  
Miami Springs 33166.

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TPTN, W4SMK, Ft. Myers

FATT, W4ZAG, Tampa

FSBA, WB4EPD, Clearwater

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## Letters To Editor

Editor:

I wonder if I can call upon FLORIDA SKIP to help in behalf of the Knights of the Kilocycles, the oldest net on the air. We are missing the calls for some of the certificate numbers as in 273 in our books. We would like to get the date of the first meeting of the Kilobits which would be listed as 41 in our roster. Also the dates when the net was off the air during WWII.

Our next meeting, April 13 and post war #1202, so you can see the Knights of the Kilocycles has been on the air for more than 34 years. So let me pass on the invitation to all you past Knights and to new comers to join us on 3430 kc at 0700 each Sunday morning. So see you all there.

73

Lester Funk, W4SPA  
1306 North Lotus Dr.  
Dunedin, FL 33508  
Master Oscillator

Dear Editor:

As Secretary of the Manatee Amateur Radio Club, it is my sad duty to report that Louis C. Heyl, W4MSH, of Palmetto, Florida, has become a Silent Key. Lou was a valued member of our club and made many outstanding contributions to amateur radio during his lifetime. Many of the members of our club remember him most for the unselfish assistance that he gave to others in helping them to become hams.

73

Robert J. Boylston, WB4CVU  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Manatee Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 1669  
Bradenton, Florida 33505

Editor:

Circumstances beyond my control has kept me from being active on our Florida traffic nets. Hope some time to remedy this situation.

For your information, I have received every copy of "SKIP" since you put the very first copy in my hand at Orlando, back 13 years ago.

Best to you and all who make SKIP possible each month.

73

Bill Dunham, W4THS  
Sarasota.  
(Editor's note: And thanks to you for your support for the past 13 years.)

Dear Andy:

I have recently found among my souvenirs, a photo album which I made of a Hamfest at Juniper Springs-July 30, 1939 - that's right, 30 years ago, come summer.

Many of the snapshots have yellowed and are hard to distinguish, but the group photo is still black and white and clear, although only 5 x 7.

Nucleus of the group were the original Knights Of The Kilocycles, including among others W4ACZ, W4ASR, W4AKI, W4FGX, W4CLW, W4DVO, W4CPW, W4GG, W4DDB, W4CNZ, W4QE, W4PEI, W4EWL, W4BNF and many others, including W4DU - "Doc" one of the first real "characters" on the ham bands.

Any of the fellows who attended this gathering who are interested, get in touch with me at below address for

a ragchew and perhaps an eyeball. I am also on the air sporadically, mostly QCWA meetings.

73

Jack Faulstich, W4CXI  
426 - 62 Ave., N.E.  
St. Petersburg, Fla. 33702

Editor:

We just discovered a "Forced-Broken" lock on the front door to our club house at "Tampa Amateur Club" located on Columbia Drive (Davis Islands Area) Tampa, FL. Person, or persons, unknown have stolen the club's XMTR, RX, and Linear Amp. Namely, Heathkit SB 400, SB 300 and SB 200. This was discovered Monday evening, March 17th, upon arrival at regular meeting night. The police were immediately notified and they have taken much info including dusting for fingerprints.

This was my "initiation" as newly elected president of TARC!

As you probably know, Heathkit method of marking each piece of equipment as to serial numbers - is merely a "tag" that can be easily removed. No other gear was disturbed - just those three items. There were plenty of other "gear" available for the thief (or thieves) to take - but all else was not "disturbed" - they even left all the pertinent cables for those three pieces of Heathkit "gear".

Would you please publish, as soon as possible, a little "Notice" (or "Box") of this robbery. TARC would appreciate your cooperation! It could be quite "to the point" (short) and request any info be given to me, Frank J. Shannon, Sr. K4GT, President TARC, 140 Bosphorus Ave., Tampa, FL., 33608. Phone (813) 251-5386.

73

Frank, W4GT

This year, May 17-24, marks the 16th Annual Michigan Week. This is the 11th year in which Michigan amateur radio operators will play an important part in celebrating the occasion.

The Governor's Achievement Certificate is available to any out-of-state Ham by contacting five Michigan Hams and sending the dates of contact, along with their Q.S.L. card, to Governor William G. Milliken, Lansing, Michigan 48902.

This achievement award is a prize possession of thousands of Hams throughout the United States and foreign countries, and it is displayed prominently in many schools.

Write me for detailed outline as to the proper procedure for applying for this achievement certificate. Your interest and cooperation will be appreciated by fellow amateurs from the state of Michigan.

Sincerely,

Gilson R. Petras, W8HEZ  
Chairman, 1969 Michigan Week  
Amateur Radio Committee  
334 East Elm Street  
Nason, Michigan 48854

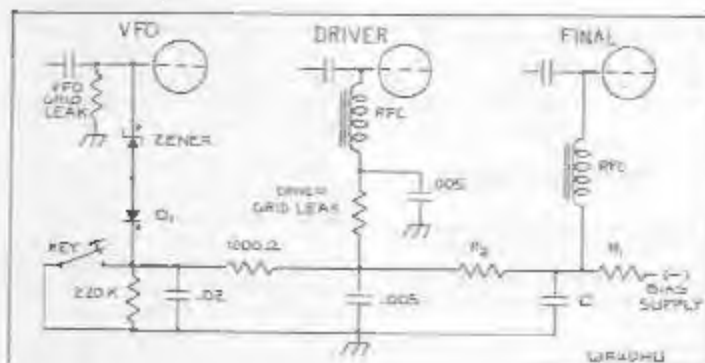
## SIMPLE GRID BLOCK KEYING

By Dick Blasco, WA4DHU

With the advent of newer gear with beautiful CW keying characteristics on the market, the old home-brewer or ham with a more vintage rig may find that his present keying system leaves much to be desired. The merits of a differential grid-block keying system are discussed at length in many of the standard handbooks. However, most of the circuits described in the literature involve one or more vacuum tubes, many parts, and in general cause the builder to shy away from all that hardware and stick to a simpler, poorer, system.

The system shown above is very simple, involves no active elements, and does a nice job of providing true differential keying at minimum cost. It is simply a voltage divider, with a zener diode providing the differential function normally provided with a VR tube.

The system is designed as follows: from a tube manual, obtain the proper operating grid voltage and current to place your final amplifier tube in class-C operation. Let B-bias supply volts, I - final grid current in milliamperes, and G - final neg. bias in volts, then:



The voltage of the zener is chosen by subtracting the VFO bias (in key down operation) from the supply bias, and choosing a diode having a zener voltage smaller than this value. Several values might be tried to get optimum keying. Capacitor C is chosen by trial and error to get the proper waveform, according to your particular taste. D1 is any general purpose diode.

In operation, final tube bias falls exponentially as the key is closed. However, at a trigger point well before the driver and final conduct, the zener stops conducting and the VFO is turned full on, while the other stages become operative at a later time depending on capacitor C. When the key is raised, the final and driver will gradually turn off, and the VFO will remain fully on until the bias is nearly full value, at which time the zener conducts to stop oscillation and places a bias on the VFO to keep it from oscillating.

The circuit provides a minimum bias of G/2 on the final to protect it in case of excitation failure. Be sure that the VFO

## PUEBLO CREW USED PRISON PIPE CODE

San Diego, Calif. — Morse code tapped out on radiator pipes linking the cells of USS Pueblo crewmen in a North Korean prison enabled them to keep in touch during 11 months of captivity.

Communications Technician Second Class Charles W. Ayling testified before the Navy Court of Inquiry here last month that the first message sent over the secret pipe network announced the death of Seaman Duane Hodges, who was wounded in the seizure of the intelligence ship.

A tap on the radiator meant a dot and a scrape was a dash. A special language was devised

## LOWER POSTAGE RATES?

There is a bill being presented to Congress requesting the Postmaster General to investigate the high postage rates with the idea of lowering those rates for amateur radio QSL cards going overseas.

If you are interested in lower postage rates for your overseas cards write to your Congressman to support bill S-1420 sec 505 Div. 39. Maybe you don't send many cards overseas but some of us do and any support would be appreciated.

(From Collector & Emiler Ed, K5LIL)

to prevent the North Koreans from listening in.

(via WA4NS—The Contractor)

## Contest Soapbox

Enjoyed the party but my neighbors TV did not — VE3IZ  
My first attempt and enjoyed it very much — WB4GGA

Got 2 new counties — VE1AE  
Nebraska QSO Party coming soon, hope the W4's will participate — WA0RKK

My congrats to the Florida ops — W4QIC

If I win for New York it is because of the many guys in Florida who were not in the contest, but took time to give me a point — WB2YKU

Great fun, will be looking forward to next year — WB2CKB

Especially like the time periods & separate CW and Fone contest — WA9OQE

Sure hope you continue having the QSO Party — W4JUZ

Very good contest! Florida was well represented — K4AAY

Wait till next year with new shack as gear — K7SQD

W. Va. had a QSO Party and I only worked & heard 6 — W4WSF

The number of people active and numbers being passed around indicate that next year you should break the out of state down to ARRL sections — W4QGZ

Am looking forward to entering again next year — WA4WTG

My score gets better every year — W4HCS

If I hadn't eaten a big turkey dinner, I might have done better — WB4INC (WA4RRB op)

Didn't win, but had a BALL — W4FRO

73

W4BYB, Chairman FQSQP

grid leak is at least 47 K or larger. This circuit is a variation on the basic design used in the Heath HW-16 transceiver. Existing grid block systems can be made differential by simply adding the two diodes to the VFO grid circuit.

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## DX AT ASCENSION ISLAND

ASCENSION ISLAND - In the South Atlantic is the base for several sites of amateur radio operation. The hamshacks at Cross Hill, the airstrip, barracks area and The Devil's Ashpit come alive several times a week to provide operators there with active hobbles, contact with home, or perhaps a choice bit of DX.

At Cross Hill, Al Blannet, ZD8AB, and Chuck Haser, ZD8-CSH, work from an ideal location some 800-feet high. Al is also former VP7DR and holds WB8MS ticket.

Near the airstrip, "The Hamshack" is loaded with gear operated by John Beck, ZD8J; Chuck Strong, ZD8CC; Norm Karlburg, ZD8NK; and Jim Green, ZD8CQ.

On the rim of The Devil's Ashpit, is Earl Porter, ZD8-OFB, with other operators Al Phillips, Robert Morse and Jim Kenworthy awaiting calls.

Down in the barracks area, are George Thompson, ZD8GT; Ralph Hyland, ZD8RH; and Al Murphy, ZD8DX.

These hams on Ascension are



GOING ALL OUT for the Florida QSO party, DBARA, K4BV, WB4-DUH, Richard Brooks, WA4QOX and WA4JCD/Mon. Operating from Flagler county, the gang turned in a nice score for their first attempt. They also had two newspaper write-ups and were invited back next year by the Mayor of Flagler Beach. K4BV racked up 325 contacts for a score of 13,975 points.

-photo T.C. Hein

all employed by NASA or AFETR contractors, and they appreciate a good stateside QSO or whatever fine DX contacts come along.

Ops at The Devil's Ashpit Hamshack just completed their building, and they're looking forward to many fine happy hours of operation. They're to be commended for the teamwork and ingenuity it took to get that shack ready. A lot of hours, an ounce or two of sweat, and a lot of scrounging went into their efforts. It's a good job you did fellows, and we won't talk about skinned elbows, cut fingers or blue thumbnails.

(FROM MARS-SCOPE W4GU)

## ANNUAL CONFUSION BEGINS APRIL 27th

Daylight Saving Time begins at 2:00 a.m. EST, April 27th. Remember to delete one hour from GMT conversion.

## HOW MANY NOW?

SKIP received the latest count of FCC Computer record of licensed amateur operators as of March 3, 1969. Here is how we stand:

Novice .....	15,910
Technician .....	54,675
Conditional .....	33,892
General .....	100,064
Advanced .....	45,862
Extra .....	8,405
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>258,908</b>

The total for March 8, 1968 was 257,156 or a BIG INCREASE of 1,852 in one year. For shame. Where are those new licenses? Does your club have an amateur course going now? Oh yes, you might like to know the total for March 1, 1966 was 261,920 or 4,012 more than now. How come? AC

## SUPPORT FLORIDA SKIP ADVERTISERS



By Jim Wilson  
N0WCK - W4GDK

This MARS organization, the youngest of the three services, is proving to be very attractive to the amateur fraternity. So much so, in fact, that Navmars Headquarters in Washington can hardly keep up with the new recruits.

Not only do we have local and district SSB voice nets, we also have RTTY and CW nets in local areas and for the district. Added to our regular traffic nets are special services performed by certain of our members. The Navy has outposts in many parts of the world. McMurdo Sound in the Antarctic, and Guantanamo Bay (Gitmo) in Cuba are two examples. To both of them in addition to official circuits there are very active MARS circuits on SSB phone and RTTY. A stream of phone patches and messages facilitates administration of the bases and permits the families at home to talk to their loved ones "down under". At McMurdo they are closed in from about March to September with even the mail planes from New Zealand excluded by the snow and cold.

So, Fla. Area - Quite a few emergency generators are being assigned to Florida members because of the danger of power loss due to hurricanes.

N.E. Fla. Area - The new Naval Training Center at Orlando is about ready to go into high gear with quantities of "arrival" traffic for our nets.

We congratulate Georgia Denman N0ZTC of Orlando on her appointment as Asst. Director, Net Operations with the administrative call N0ASC 3.


N.W. Fla. - N0EWT continues to function in his new position as Area Coordinator with help of his capable 1st Mate Toni whose participation on the voice nets from N.W. Fla. is a great help.

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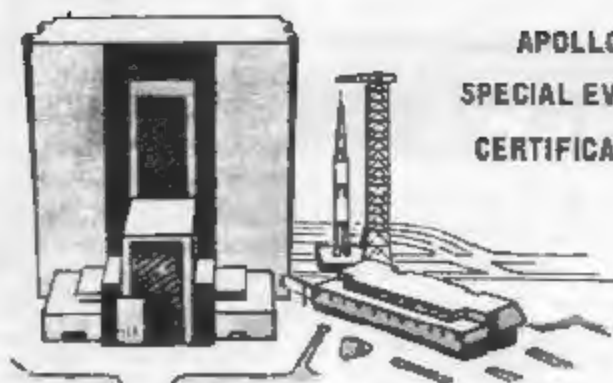
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## APOLLO SPECIAL EVENT CERTIFICATE

By Ambrose G. Barry, W4GHV

An attractive certificate is awarded by the Kennedy Space Center Amateur Radio Society to contacts made during each manned Apollo space mission. A QSL sent to the club, WB4ICJ, P.O. Box 21073, Kennedy Space Center, Fla. 32815, along with 3 or 4 stamps, to help the club meet expenses, are all that is required. The club presently operates on 3975, 7275, 14340, 21340 SSB with dipoles and on the 15 meter novice CW band. Operation begins at the time of the Saturn V space booster lift-off and continues until the members are exhausted (about 8-10 hours). Keep up with the Apollo launch dates to obtain the QSO and certificate.

Present club station equipment consists of Collins S-Line and dipoles. More equipment is planned. Member's equipment is also used during Apollo events.

"Best" DX so far has been a 9X5, a ZS6, and Europe, worked "barefoot" with dipoles.

Over 700 contacts were made during the Apollo 8 mission, including 18 countries.

Over 700 contacts were made during the Apollo 9 mission, including 14 countries.

QSO's by band for Apollo 9: 75-41, 40-100, 20-281, 15-290. More participation on 75 and 40 is urged, as it was "fast and furious" on 20 and 15.

JOIN



APOLLO IX MARCH 3, 1969  
LIFT OFF 1600 GMT

CERTIFICATE NO. \_\_\_\_\_ TIME \_\_\_\_\_

**SPACE CENTER AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY**

KNOW ALL MEN THAT AMATEUR BY THESE PRESENTS RADIO STATION  
HAS BEEN IN QSO WITH  
**WB4ICJ**

EARTH ORBIT LOCATED WITHIN  
LUNAR MODULE JOHN F. KENNEDY SPACE CENTER AREA  
FLORIDA USA 32815  
NO. 21073

OPERATOR NAME - W4GHV CW AM SSB IS  
FREQUENCY 3975 KHz R 5 T  
ANTENNA DIPOLE TRANS REC TRANSCIVER 1000 W

*Ant. Matched* W4GHV  
RECEIVED W. H. HALL W4AZC

BY SIGNING & FORWARDING THIS CERTIFICATE TO THE SPACE CENTER AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, P.O. BOX 21073, KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLA. 32815, YOU AGREE TO PAY THE COST OF THE CERTIFICATE.



THE STATLER-HILTON Inn on Colonial Drive in Orlando was buzzing with amateurs all over the state attending the annual Orlando Hamfest. A goodly crowd was on hand as you can see from this photo. How about making plans to attend next year? Watch FLORIDA SKIP for details.

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## - CLUB NEWS -



### FLA. VHF SIDEBANDERS By R. D. Ralston - K4LFF

Due to a recent illness I was forced to discontinue my SSB rig, so I hope that in the meantime some of you fellows will keep me posted as to what is going on till such a time as I can get back on the air.



**K4JYA**  
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1st & 3rd  
Friday  
of each  
Month  
8 P.M.

**KENDALL METHODIST  
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**NORTH FLORIDA  
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**W4IZ**

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**J.R. Baker, W4LR**  
1402 Orange Street  
Melbourne, Fla. 32951



**W4AB**  
**BROWARD  
AMATEUR  
RADIO  
CLUB**

6 / FLORIDA SKIP May 1969

Back scatter was very good on the 4th April with WA4MHS in New Port Richey and W4GDS in Pompano Beach both being heard in the far north with their beams south. Bob was able to work VP2MJ, but some of the 5's in Mississippi, Oklahoma, Texas etc., who were also being heard here were not able to copy the VP3. Maybe this is going to be the year as several have been predicting.

Keep the news coming in, and if one of the other members would like to take over the column for a few months, just let me know.

### I.R.A.R.C. NEWS

By S. T. Walker, Sr. W4EWB

Springtime has arrived with a bang. Time to repair antennas and check those mobile rigs cause it's hamfest time again. The Orlando Hamfest is coming up fast and I hope we can see a lot of people over there that we know and enjoy talking to every year.

The Indian River Amateur Radio Club of Cocoa participated in the Florida QSO Party using our club call W4NLX. We had a good site and the trees were just right for our temporary antennas. We would like to thank the Brevard County Civil Defense HQ for the loan of their van and generator. Norm, WB4EDM, Don, WA4KJY, and Jim, W8BZY/4 put in a lot of hours and a lot of other fellows worked hard too. Miami came in on short skip on 20 Meters. Next month (June) is Field Day time and we need more volunteers, so how about it fellows?

Don't forget our Net frequency on

2 Meters on 146.5 MHz Am on Thursday evenings at 2000 E.S.T. We welcome anyone to check in.

### S.C.A.R.S.

The Space Center Amateur Radio Society (SCARS) of Kennedy Space Center, Florida had their Club Station WB4KJ in operation on March 3, 1969 for an "Apollo IX Special Event".

The club offered a Special Event Certificate commemorating the Apollo IX flight to all amateur radio "hams" in radio contact with any of the club stations operating during the day. Over 700 hams were contacted during a 10 hour operating period. Contacts were made with most of the United States, most of the Canadian Provinces, four Central American countries, five European countries, two African countries, and the Apollo recovery ship, USS Guadalupe.

Acco Goodwin and Roy Dureo are again handling the task of sending out the certificates.

The members are presently making plans for the Apollo X mission presently scheduled for a May launch. Other future plans include a picnic and operation during the Field Day Contest. They wholeheartedly agreed that operation during the historic Apollo missions proves to be both rewarding and enjoyable. It is also a unique way to arouse public interest in the Apollo Program via the contacts with radio amateurs throughout the world.

All Government and industry employees at Kennedy Space Center and AFRTS are eligible to join the club. Training courses in radio theory and Morse Code are being planned and will be given to all members and their families desiring them. Meetings are held in NSC Headquarters Building, Room 2429, at 4:30 P.M. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Visitors are welcome. For information contact Herb Gathell, 867-4690; Elmer Davis, 867-7216; or Ambrose Barry, 859-8111.

### GULFSTREAM SOCIETY OF AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS, INC.

By Al Sahr, WB4ADG

For many months, more than we like to recall, the Society has prepared for the day when there would be three functions taking place simultaneously in the new headquarters. Such activity is now planned and is now announced as beginning Friday, April 11th when the first Class for Extra Class will be conducted by the Education Committee, Jim Johnson, W4IBZ, Chairman and his able assistant, Richard Kidder, WB4AKH. At present this will be a pilot course intended for members. Later, after working out the entire program, it will be offered to hams in general. The second part of this phased program for Society activity is building. Members are now in the process of carrying out earlier plans in connection with operating decks, equip-

ment locations, etc. After completion of this second part comes the placement of the equipment and the actual operation for "on the air" participation in a variety of Ham affairs. The operation, of course, will be the third part of the program.

The Science Museum and Planetarium of Palm Beach County has requested that the Society stage a demonstration of Ham Radio during the month of May. The date will be announced in local papers as May 18th, Sunday and will be conducted to show off SSB, RTTY, Ham TV, component development and actual operation of portable and mobile stations. Plans are made and committees appointed for this purpose, and members are looking forward to this affair.

Warren Little, WA4EFA/4, graduated from the University of Florida with a Degree in Electrical Engineering. Western Electric now has him in their Burlington, N.C. facility.

Because of an administrative error the office of Vice President was erroneously reported in connection with recent elections held by the Society. The new Vice President is Richard Kidder, WB4AKH. See you in Orlando.

### VHF - EASTERN FLORIDA

By Bertha Farr Eggert WA8BMC

### VHF - PAM EASTERN FLA.

Two meters was open several nights into E-Land and into Georgia and all over Florida. Two'ers in the Palm Beaches were working Two'ers in Tampa.

Ed Watson, WB4ELS, of Lake Worth, writes the following: "Every preacher knows that there is nothing quite like the enthusiasm of a new convert. WB4ELS, Father Ed Watson of Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church in Lake Worth, is a convert to Ham Radio and approaches the hobby and all its related factors with enthusiasm. When the women's group of his parish came up with the idea of an art and hobby show so that the work of the Church's people could be displayed and appreciated, Father Watson quickly filled in a form and announced that he would have his station not only on display but working (he hoped). From 2 to 6 p.m. on March 16th the Parish Hall crackled with QRM. There were no CQ's to be sent because a number of hams in the Lake Worth area volunteered to meet WB4ELS on a 2 Meter schedule. The display and the activity became a center of attraction at the show.

The congregation had already been informed a few weeks before of a relayed message from Vietnam that came as good news to a girl whose husband was serving on a ship that had been reported as having been bombed with a number of casualties. WB4ELS's greatest thrill, however, came after the station had been set up. Everything worked the first time."

Some of those who had skeds with Ed are: WB4FLJ, Herb, West Palm Beach - WB4HYD, Jim, Lake Park - WB4LNL, Carl, Palm Springs - W4LTN, Wilson, West Palm Beach -



WB4HPE, Frank, Riviera Beach - WA4AZZ, Slim, Lake Worth and me, WA4BMC, also of Lake Worth.

Listen each night on 145.500 at 8:00 PM for a rag-chewing group. This is no net, just a group of Hams from the South East Part of Florida who get on and yak.

Also, WA4TBN, Frank, Lake Worth (Palm Beach Gardens) sends code practice on 145.350 at 1:00 PM each night and a lot of the local Hams have got their code speed up through this code practice, and have gone on and gotten their General Tickets.

See you next month.

Bertha Parr Eggert WA4BMC

#### FIVE FLAGS AMATEUR RADIO ASSN. INC.

By Lou Goldstein, K4LAN

Well, we had our elections last month. The only change in officers was the President. Doc. Bob Hardwick, W4ETE, won the toss up and came out as the new man on top.

The second meeting was the one where we got down to business. Bob, W4ETE, stated the club should have a few committees to handle the work of the club. In these he included, traffic, program, contest, VHF, etc. He feels with these committees we can have every one doing something to enhance the interest of many, and several members can be on more than one committee. Carl Nelson, WB4DHL, worked up a contract with the club and turned his 2 meter repeater over to the club.

The FFARA now has a 2 meter relay station of its own and we expect 2 meter activity to double in the next few months. The Sect. mentioned the Assn's paper will be sent out to many hams in the Ft. Walton area and a few in the Panama City area in hopes of increasing the area the newsletter is read. The paper consists of radio news and activities mostly in the North West Fla. area.

Once again it's getting close to Field Day. Looking back at the slow start we got last year, it was suggested we start now to get things together for this years F.D. Bob Babcock, K4NMZ, will be checking on the site we used last year. For those who are new or don't remember it's the one with the 150 foot tower some of the members climbed to install the beam we used on 10-11 and 20 meters.

We wish to express our sympathy at the passing of Bryon Hudson, WB4AJN, a member of our assn.

B.A.R.C.

By Jim Wilson W4GDX

The April meeting of the Club is being held at First Federal Savings and Loan as a transition site while we seek a new permanent meeting place which we hope to be able to announce soon.

At the recent board meeting it was decided that too much time was being taken up at meetings verifying scores of members participating in the Club's several QSO contests. Hereafter they must submit the info on a form that will be provided. This info will be reviewed and at the next meeting the winners will be announced.

Knowing that phone patches are a "hot" subject right now, the Club has arranged for a telephone company engineer to give us the latest info on the subject at a meeting in the near future.

All interested in ham radio are welcome at our meetings. Our May meeting place is not yet certain but we would be glad to have you call our Secy. Ray McFarly in Ft. Lauderdale at 522-2606. He will be able to give you details. The meetings are always the second Wednesday of the month.

#### DADE RADIO CLUB NEWS W4EDP

The annual election of officers was held at the meeting on April 1, and the following good people have been elected to the indicated offices - (no April fool either, in spite of the date).

President - W4BYB Rex Trobridge, V. President - WA4CV John Steel, Treasurer - Rudy Baker W4ROY, Secretary - J. Bonnell W4EDP, Board of Directors - WB4FDH Jeff Green, WB4JG Bob Kirschenbaum, and W4RLQ Bob Bayes.

The new president started things off with a bang by appointing a Field Day Committee, so that things get started in that department on time.

W4BYB and K4JWM operated the club station during the Florida QSO party and from the looks of the log they came up with they did right well. A couple of the regular contesters who belong to the club did pretty good too, but it looks like our boys beat them out. We will know more when the scores are tabulated. Come on Andy, we're waiting.

The club is making plans now to participate in the Showcase the Museum has scheduled for later in the year and we intend to put on a first class radio exhibit for them. We will pass the word on this as soon as there is anything specific to report.

(Editor Note: Jim became a "Spicey" 2 days after he wrote this article.)

#### ORLANDO RAMBLINGS Hal, W4BKC

According to a report from Jack, K4NTD who talked to Dick Hart, KOMOS of Cedar Falls, Iowa, who will be the speaker at the Orlando Hamfest, Saturday nite he had just completed a 5,000 mile contact on 2 meters with ZL1AXR. If you want to find out how easy it is to do don't miss Sat. nite. Dick will also explain a simplified moonbounce technique. Do you think we could interest NAA in putting a 2 Meter repeater on the peak marked planet? Might be someday we could strive for WAP, Worked All Planets.

Most of the loose ends are falling in place, as of this writing regarding the Hamfest - but one never can re-



JIM FEW, WA4ONZ of DeLand sends the following: "Thought you might like to see my new log-periodic antenna for 2 meters. It performs much better than any other beam of comparable size. The front-to-back ratio is outstanding with only negligible side lobes and really gets me out of town. I believe I have a 'first' here as you may have noticed, it is entirely supported by a harmonic which rotates it on voice command... Tower dimensions 34-24-35, Deborah.

lax till it's over - always remembering Murphy's Law - If anything can go wrong it will, at the last minute. If you think putting on a Hamfest is easy - talk to any of the Committee - after it is over thru the bars of the padded cell.

Have a different system this year - on the room reservations. Hope it works - won't be like last year when the Model "lost or couldn't find" some.

Well, see most of you at the Ham-

fest, gotta go and take another mouthful of tranquillizers.

#### NOFARS NEWS

By WA4GWH, Warren Coker

A discussion of Part 97 of the U.S. Communications Law was the featured program for April for the North Florida Amateur Radio Society (NOFARS). The session was conducted by Charlie Walters, WA1MO, NOFARS

(Continued on Page 8)

## PLATINUM COAST AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

PRESENTS ITS  
4th ANNUAL

# HAMFEST

SEPTEMBER 13, 1969

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# CLUB NEWS

(Continued from Page 7)

TVI Committee Chairman and State Radio Officer for the Florida State Civil Defense System. Walters, along with NOFARS Technical Director George Werner, W4ORT, is presently co-instructor in an advancement class for Jacksonville-area amateurs planning to take the F.C.C. exams April 24th.

Bill Williams, W4RUF, has stepped down as NOFARS Activities Manager because of increased job demands. Assistant AM, John Anderson, W4GCM, will assume the duties full time until an election is held to fill the vacancy.

Six NOFARS members lent Jacksonville's Goodwill Industries a helping hand by providing base and mobile communications March 22nd. During this annual event, clothing and other items are donated to Goodwill for repair and refurbishing. NOFARS Amateurs divide the town into sections, patrol these areas and notify the base station located at Goodwill headquarters whenever items are ready at various pickup-points. Operators taking part in this year's drive were: Don Barnes, W4YJA; Calvin Smith, W4WOW; Bill Blasigame, W4NEV; Harold Hobbs, W4VZF; John Anderson, W4GCM and Linda Hoyt, W4PLE.

SPLATTER... W4ORT is claiming 581,484 points and 1026 QSOs from the recent multi-weekend ARRL DX contest... W4LEG hopes to rank high in the national scoring with 14,490 points and 333 contacts from the ARRL Novice Roundup... W4UFW, W4EYK and W4HAE gave the world a run for its money working multi-op in the Florida QSO party from the QTH of W4DWQ... and K4DSN has written another Apollo edition for CQ.

## SOUTH MIAMI RADIO CLUB

By Ernie K4KIC

We are very pleased with our new meeting place at the Kendall Methodist church after being shifted around from leg cabins to police stations and school rooms. Our attendance is increasing in our new quarters as we are able to put on interesting programs with sound movies on subjects dealing with Ham Radio.

In place of one of our March meetings we made a tour of the air traffic control center in Miami where we were conducted through the entire installation and was shown the transmitters and receivers used in the operation of the center. This tour was open to members, their families and friends. The turnout was very pleasing and a good time was had by all.

Our second meeting in March was taken up with a demonstration of the proper use of firearms by the Coral Gables Police Department which turn-

ed out to be very educational as a display of various weapons used in riot control was explained and some showed evidence of being used.

We are pleased to see some of our old time members showing up at the meetings such as John Porter W4-KGJ who just recently returned back home after a tour of work in Mississippi. Jerry Kratz K4LKA returning as Doctor Kratz after completing medical school in Atlanta. And of course are always happy to see new faces at the meetings.

In behalf of our President George Henning W4JFA and other officers of the club we extend a most cordial invitation to come visit us sometime. For time and meeting places see our ad in Florida Skip.

## DAYTONA GROUNDWAVE 2

By Richard Calhoun W4AOKX

The March meeting found us back at the Red Cross building, although we outgrew their meeting room, it was good to be in familiar grounds again. Harold Utter W4WGL brought our HW-100 by for a progress report. The unit is over half finished.

March is also the month we lost our EC Lester Beyer W4BPL. Fred Thoma W4BPO, past assistant EC has volunteered to take over the job. Fred is also the club historian. Leaving us for Pennsylvania, Harry Brown W4EPH, our secretary, also seeking greener pastures. Frank Miloy W4SYH, past secretary, was elected to finish his term.

During a mad impulse, DEARA decided to compete in the Florida QSO Party. After a short debate plans were made to operate portable in Flagler county. The Mayor of Flagler Beach was contacted and he made arrangements for us in the Lions Club meeting room overlooking the fishing pier. Antennas and equipment were secured and away we go. Participating were, Fred W4BPO, Dave W4GQH, Dave W4HQX, Jim W4-ONZ, Smith W4PCD, Howard W4-OSB, Frank W4SYH, Richard Brooks W4... and Barbara Reid W4JCP/MOM. Alto we heard high Fla scores we found some good operators for field day and had a big time. We used Larry's W4ATKZ KWME. With the experience we gained from our first round we promise to do much better next year.

Florida Power and Light is making us some QSLs for Flagler county and we hope to QSL 100%.

We also got two nice write ups in the Daytona and Flagler newspapers.

The Mayor of Flagler was so pleased with our county expedition that he offered me a key to the place and wants us back again next time we try a contest. So all in all I call the whole thing a whopping success.

## WESTERN FLORIDA NEWS

Frank M. Smiler, Jr. W4KNE

Pensacola; New hams to the area include W4MED, W4MHU and W4-MKQ. W4BVM was appointed OPS. BRIV/W4 is a regular on QFN now. New officers of the FFARA are W4-ETE, President; K4OSE, Vice-Pres.; K4LAN, Secretary and Editor. The club was donated a copying machine, and puts out a PB newsletter. The club code and theory classes for Novice are nearly complete.

Fort Walton Beach: K4AQO, W4-YCO, W4YUT, W4SCOU and W4YOW are now in this area. W4BMS went

mobile on 2m FM. W4APUC/MS was the first station granted permission to work the U.S. from Thailand. He is looking for FVB stations around 14,290 Kc at 1420 GMT. A county 6-meter net has been formed, meeting on 50.4 Mc. at 7 PM local time every Tuesday, with W4APH as NCS. W4RKH added several 2-meter antennas to his 80' tower.

Port St. Joe; K4RZF got a new HW-100.

Apalachicola: K2UGY's new call is K4BDY. Marianna: W4MBL is a new ham in Alford, near here.

Tallahassee: K4Y8Q graduated from FHP Trooper school and is assigned to the Sunshine State Parkway.

## ST. PETERSBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

By Cathy Soehl  
W4BAV/AREA/ARNS

HAMFEST - HAMFEST - HAMFEST SPARC annual hamfest - May 18th - Lake Maggiore Park, 9th St. & 4th Ave. So. Come bring family and picnic lunch. Swap Tables & Prites. plenty free parking.

SPARC has a new meeting place: Azalea Youth Center, 1400 72nd St. No. Though meetings are held the 1st Friday each month, the July meeting will be held the 2nd Friday, (July 11th) account of the holiday.

W4ZAWF - Jack Gray has received his modified call of W4NPF (Mighty Popular Fellow).

W4CXI - Jack Fadnich gave an interesting talk on "Metal Detectors" at the March meeting.

W4DXB - Ralph Stonemetz's resignation as Pres. of SPARC was regrettably accepted, as he moved to Sarasota. We wish him good luck, hope he enjoys their new location and that no more operations will be necessary. W4ACG - John Smith, V-Pres., was installed as President. Congratulations to W4KC - Bill Franklin on passing his Extra Class License and W4J8I - Stan Hurst, his Advanced Class.

W4JPI - Joe Fitzer returned from Yonkers safely, we are glad to report. Had he delayed his departure, would have been on the plane that crashed killing so many down there.

K4HQZ - Art Bond sold his home on 2nd Ave. No. and now resides at 801 - 64th St. No. Got that 6-meter beam up, Art.

K4PKY - "Pat" Patterson, a former SPARC member, is retired from the Coast Guard and has moved back to St. Petersburg. Welcome back, Pat, we've missed you all the years you have been in Va. and Calif.

## FORT MYERS CLUB

By Ken W4SMK

The FMARC had a program that was a bit different at the last meeting. Club Pres. K4HNW presented a color slide show made by his brother Tom of the annual snow festival in northern Japan. Tom narrated the show via tape, and it was most interesting.

Also on the program was an operating quiz made up of questions furnished by the ARRL on general operating and DX. These aids are available to all ARRL affiliated clubs and are a real help to brush up your skill. Next month K4FQU is going to organize a hidden transmitter hunt that promises to be a bit unusual also. See you there?

W4KET put the TR 4 in the car for a trip with the family up to Charlotte, N.C. Barb was on vacation for a week

and worked several of the localities along the way. The mobile did a fine job including some rather good DX, which W4KET specializes in.

W4ELKY has been on the sick list, but at last report Lucky is doing fine again. He has a new rig which he has not had a chance to operate yet, but should be on the air again soon.

K4CAH has the radio control model plane fever. We saw Ernie do some fancy stunts along with the other model plane club members.

W4HHD made a nice showing in the CW DX contest this year. Doc's number one Son W4DKD is studying medicine at the U. of Fla.

W4JMJ says he will be attending Edison Jr. College here this summer. Dean is now in Brooksville.

Support your local radio club.

Ken

## B.A.R.S.

By Gene Burton, W4YNN

The Brandon Amateur Radio Society met on April 14, with a very outstanding program on Laser: "The Light Fantastic." Robert A. Kersten, Engineer, General Telephone Company, covered the subject very well with lecture and demonstration.

On April 12 ten BARS members participated in the Hillsborough County Civil Defense exercise "Wash-blow." This was a well-planned emergency exercise of four hours duration. All stations reported plenty of "action."

A covered dish dinner was held by BARS on April 18 at the TECO Leisure House, with members and guests present. All agreed that we should do it again. It really is true - some wives can out-talk their ham husbands.

The change in Field Day rules this year, permitting set up before starting time, will be welcomed by many.

Lou K4ASP and Gene W4YNN participated in the recent Florida Side-Banders Association Emergency Mobile Meet in Bartow.

Latest BARS member to receive his call is Mark Terrell, W4B8SF.

## SUNCOAST ROVING REPORTER

By Cathy Soehl  
W4BAV/AREA/ARNS

Congratulations to Maude Hall, who passed her Novice, receiving the call of W4NMEA. Also being a member of the Garden Club, was hostess at the Flower Show in Bradenton. Maude entered a miniature flower arrangement, called "The Designer", for which OM, Jim - W4B5Z carved a natural looking pair of scissors to lay on the material around the arrangement. Also entered 2 gladiolas on which she won 2 Blue Ribbons. Congrats, Maude.

K4FQO - Don Laurent, Secty of Blue Cross of Fla., will attend a "sky-lift" in Jan. week-end of April 26th. The Blue Cross is erecting a new building so, rather than a ground breaking, they are raising a balloon to the proposed building height, hence the "sky-lift". Novel idea.

W4GPK - Ruth Smith is home from the Suncoast Hospital, having had a cataract operation and doing fine. Good luck.

K4IVE - John DeMougin has been missed on 6-meters and we hope he will soon be feeling better and back with the gang.

W4GJO - "Grid" Gridley has moved to 3712 Maler Circle, where he has plenty of ground for an antenna farm.

(Continued on Page 9)



## CLUB NEWS

(Continued from Page 8)

and has built a nice radio shack on to the house. Good luck, Grid.

SPARC HAMFEST - May 13th - Lake Maggiore, St. Petersburg.

## FLORIDORA NEWS

By Annette Thompson

W4WPD - Shirley plans a trip with her OM to the Virgin Islands about the middle of June. They will celebrate their anniversary and Earl's birthday with son Russell who is with the Department of Agriculture and stationed there.

W4EHN - Betty and her OM will jet to the Orient, leaving May 15th. They will visit Tokyo, Hong Kong and Bangkok. Surely sounds like an exciting trip! Betty has a foster child, Rita, in Brazil and receives interesting letters from her.

Floridorsas' sincere sympathy goes to W4IUR - MIn who lost her mother on March 28th.

W4HRC - Bo's brother who resided in Pompano has suffered a heart attack. He is with Bo in Jacksonville now, and we hope he is much improved.

(Continued on Page 11)

## SIX LEND HELPING HAND

Six NOFARS Jax operators lent Goodwill Industries a helping hand by providing base and mobile communications during the "Good Turn Day" March 22nd.

The six are: W44YJA, Don Barnes; W4WOW, Calvin Smith; W4NEV, Bill Blasingame; W4VZF, Harold Hobbs; W4GCM, John Anderson; and W4PLE, Landon Hoyt.

"Good Turn Day" is an annual event in which Boy Scouts of the community collect clothes and other items donated to Goodwill Industries for repair and refurbishing. The activity provides employment for many of the city's handicapped.

In addition to gear provided by the operators, additional equipment for communications was loaned by George Werner, W4QRT and Wade Brazwell, K4VXD.

(BALANCE MODULATOR)

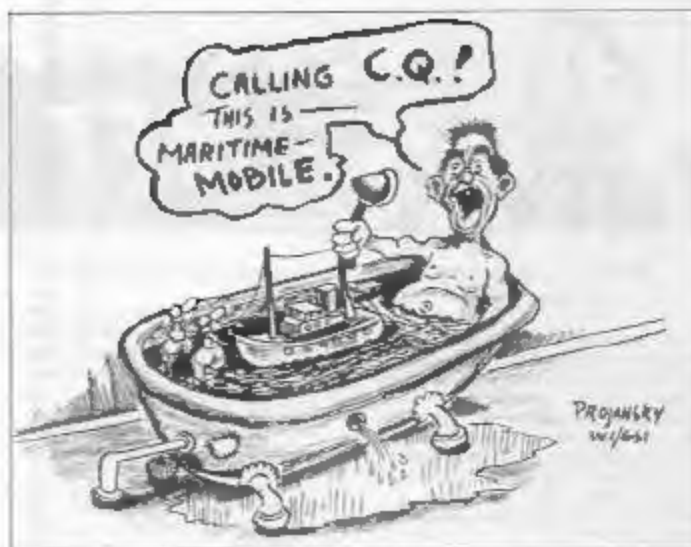


The meeting at Atlantic City for all of Eastern Comm. Region is now history. While not all the events have been reported on, those that have come to light point to a very successful conference. Not having been there I do not feel qualified to comment on the meeting and having gotten no direct report from any of the participants I shall refrain from any speculation.

A news note worthy of our attention is the arrival of a new harmonic at the shack where AFB4HNV Stan Stein. A boy, weighed in at 9 lbs, 1 oz, mother and son are doing fine.

While on the subject of news we would like to welcome to the Air Force program the following members; AFA4BT/W Sam Murray, AFA4CKF Fred Spencer, AF4QJU Gerry Kemler, AFC4HDZ Jay Becker and AFC4IMQ Randy Carter. All the foregoing are checking into the six meter net in the Miami area. If you know of any others you wish welcomed please send me the particulars and I will be glad to include them in the next issue.

Now some news that is not so good for the people in South Florida, especially the two meter net group. AFC4AGI Jim Sutherland the two meter net manager is about to leave our area. He is moving to the Tampa St. Pete area and we are saddened to see him go. The two meter net had a farewell dinner



## CALLING FREQUENCIES

St. Pete will monitor 7125 and 3870 KC daily from 8:30 AM till 9:30 AM. For the convenience of any one that wishes a phone call made in the St. Pete area or any traffic they wish passed and an answer to

at the Sweden house for Jim on the 28th of March and gave Jim a proper send off, they'll miss him too.

AFB4FZV, Al Shaw is the new two meter net Manager and if he does as well as the previous one they will not suffer at all administratively. Al will be the first to tell you Jim's knowledge of electronics is tough to match.

So far I've gotten no encouragement or discouragement from any of you who read this column. You're doing to have to put up with the above type of reporting until someone tells me different or suggests suitable topics.

John R. Hopkin Jr. AFC4BND

any question the following morning.

We can call toll free the following areas . . . Gulfport, Kenneth City, Madeira Beach, Redington Beh., Pinellas Park, Seminole, South Pasadena, Treasure Island, Clearwater, Dunedin, Indian Rocks, Largo, Safety Harbor.

Just call CQ St. Pete and wiggle OSC a bit and we will come back. At present will have to retune for 40 but it just takes a minute so there might be a slight delay for an answer on 40 . . . Would like comments from others on this service and would like some more cities to join us daily etc. 73.

Jim/K4EQP

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# NET NEWS



## TROPICAL PHONE NET

By Ken W4SMK

Net manager WB4EPD is instituting a new policy for encouraging all net members to gain experience as net control stations if they so desire. Effective immediately if you desire to try your hand as net control please send a radiogram or post card request to Rich WB4EPD in Clearwater. Indicate what night or nights you would prefer, and any other questions you may have.

All beginning controls will receive an up to date roll call and written instructions on net procedures and format. After six to twelve weeks of practice as NCS you will then be placed on a stand by status, and will be available if needed to pinch hit as NCS. Please don't be timid about giving the NCS you a try. It will help make you a better traffic handler and will improve the quality of our net. ARL seven to WB4EPD will get you all the info.

Welcome aboard to Dean, WA4JMU in Brooksville who is new on the roll call. Dean is planning on coming to Ft. Myers this summer, and is also helping with out of state life.

The traffic is slowing down a bit as usual, but we still get a good batch on occasion, usually when no one shows up to take it all, hi. We need more originations from all members to help give our new net controls some good practice directing a busy net. How about it? All of you have friends and relatives around the State and country you can drop a greeting to in order to help the traffic total.

TPTN meets daily at 2200 GMT on 3945 KHz, except on Sunday. We invite you to join with us when possible. Stations not on the roll are invited in at the appropriate time after the roll is called. ARL thirty six.

## QFN REPORT



By Dan Franklin K4EHY

QFN for March was mixed. Our representation was good on the region nets, only missing one late RNS session. For a while, we had all Rep and NCS slots filled and every thing was going smooth, but now we get some openings.

WB4JIV, Carlo, has moved permanently to Key West with his wife, rig and junk box. He will have a new rig at home with one on the ship soon and will be back on the air regularly.

WB4JN, Rick, standing in for Carlo, has had a few difficulties, but

he is now a new Official Relay Station.

WB4EKM, Bill, continues to send the Official Bulletin daily at 0300 GMT on the net frequency of 3661 KC. He has put up an inverted Yee antenna on the air a Reath linear, so his signal has improved considerably.

The NCS's and Ops around NTS have been quite benumbed by Don's 831V W4 call sign as he has been in and out of a lot of nets. Don is a permanent resident of Pensacola and will get a W call as soon as he gets his citizenship papers. Don is using a vertical but plans to put up some kind of horizontal antenna to better his signal.

WB4ZY/4, Jim, has been off the air fixing antennas and is back now filling his 4RN spot.

New recruit WB4JMJ, Dean, in Brooksville is coming along fine.

During the Daylight Savings Time the early session will be on 40 meters, look to the QFN Bulletin and QNC's on the nets for further details.

News of the Hamfest in Orlando next month... CU There

73, Dan K4EHY... AR.

## GATOR NET

Gator Net made its move from 3661 KHz to 7115 KHz without missing a call. All signals are stronger and North Florida stations sound good in South Florida. There is less QRM and noise. It is hoped more North and West Florida stations will come in to exchange traffic. Already there are some new stations; Bill WB4LFL, George WA4TOQ and WB4CQJ.

W, WA4SCK, Birch WB4JIV and Mac WA4JH have provided excellent liaison with other Florida Nets and out-of-state relays.

Net Manager Tom K4COO has taken time from his exacting home duties to preside over net business.

Operating speed is reduced to encourage "fame over" and "new generals" to get with us. This accounts for the low rate, but we think the few extra minutes are worthwhile.

73

RIJ WA4HW assistant Mgr GN

## FLA. MIDDAY TRAFFIC NET

By Herb, W4LSR

The net is getting out fair share of the Orlando Hamfest traffic with reservations coming in at a pace comparable with previous years. There appears to be a healthy interest in the hamfest among Florida and out-of-state amateurs and we in Orlando are looking forward to a large attendance and the enjoyable "eyeballs" that make it so worthwhile.

News is scarce this month but we are happy to announce that we have heard of no sickness among our members during March. Maybe the Hong Kong flu has run its cycle. Let's hope so.

It is too early for vacations and there have been only two reports of

new gear. Ted, WB4CBP has deserted Swan, his first love, for Drake equipment. His signal sounds about the same but he has more knobs to twiddle. Steve, WB4HTJ who joined out net in February, is impatiently awaiting the arrival of the Heathkit Hot Water 100 which he has on order. It is a long time ago but I still remember my impatience at age 16 and I am in complete sympathy with Steve.

Bobby, WB4GMB is back in Wildwood and active on the net again. Welcome back Bobby, and greetings to Chick, W4LX in Clearwater who joined us this month. Our Net Manager Clyde, W4SDR is enjoying his new binoculars during the current bikini invasion at Daytona.

Your reporter thoroughly enjoyed your greetings on the occasion of my recent birthday. Why not make it a standard practice for all Net members? It only takes a moment and it lasts a long time.

Our net held 29 sessions in March. 616 stations handled 328 messages for an average QNI of 23.8 and an average QTC of 12.6 CU at the Hamfest.

## FLAMINGO NET NEWS

WA4DP

Well, at long last a roster of the big ugly birds has been made up and distributed this year and believe it or not there are thirty eight names on it, all legitimate too. Don't remember for sure, but I think that is the largest number the net has had for some time now. Don't let that stop you though, there is always room for one

more, both on the air and the roster, so check in some night.

Had a transmitter hunt on Sunday, March 30, the hidden transmitter was W4DTJ, Carl and Evelyn. He had a beautiful location on Miami Beach to hide in - on the top deck of a parking facility! Who in the world would look for a transmitter up there, especially a mobile? His new rig sounds real good too, besides getting out a little better than the old sown watt job did. Who won? you ask; modesty forbids me to answer that question.

Had some skip interference while the hunt was on, the band was open to the whole East coast and midwest for most of the afternoon. Some of the skip stations were loud enough to lose up a direction finding loop, which of course only adds to the fun.

Wall W4DWN, and Dora K4CYF have finally got the modulator problem licked and are back to there every Friday again.

So long for this month - see you on 39,044 KHz Friday.

(Editor Note: W4EDP wrote this 2 days before his untimely death on April 11.)

Be kind to your friends - If it weren't for them you'd be a total stranger.

Ed Wyns

BE A GOOD GUY!  
JOIN UP WITH  
AREC IN YOUR  
COUNTY

## TOP TWENTY TRAFFIC TAKERS

By W. C. Dinsingame WA4NEV

Each month we are happy to list the top twenty traffic takers in Florida. Next month we hope to see your call here.

1. WA4JH	557	11. W4SDR	119
2. WA4SCK	376	12. WB4IER	112
3. WB4JH	308	13. W4DFU	109
4. WA4FGH	290	14. W4LSR	109
5. WA4NEV	282	15. WB4DVM	104
6. WB4JH	278	16. WB4EPD	96
7. K4VY/4	262	17. K4DAX	73
8. W3CUL/4	201	18. WA4HED	73
9. K4LAN	192	19. W4EHY	72
10. WB4JN	166	20. WB4HKM	68

## TRAFFIC HOUNDS

NET	QNI	AV. QNI	QTC	AV. QTC	SESS.
FMTN	619	23.8	328	12.6	26
FAST	825	31.7	191	5.8	20
GN	195	6.2	161	5.16	31
TPTN	622	23.9	132	5.0	24
FPTN	474	18.3	124	4.8	26
NHN	31	3.1	4	0.4	10
WFPN	682	-	82	-	31

(Continued from Page 9)

**W4BAV** - Cathy and **W4WPD** - Shirley and their QNRs recently visited **K4RNS**. Marge in Daytona, Margo has purchased a smaller home there, and though she hasn't moved in yet, Shirley and Cathy made an inspection and are classified as her first out-of-town guests.

**W4GHD** - Joan was welcomed to the Floridians Net a few weeks ago and we hope she can be with us often. Joan graduated from high school last year and hopes to begin college next year. Good luck with your plans.

**W4IFYD** - Margaret and her brother have gone north early this spring as some business there required their attention. They promise to come back soon and try Florida summer living. When **K4XCS** - Lee's color-TV and black and white set both went out at the same time, Lee bought parts and repaired the black and white set. What ingenuity!

**D.C.A.R.P.S.C.**  
B, **W4LKC**

Regis Kramer Jr. **W4JXZ** was awarded a Superior rating in the Junior

division during the recent Ende-Broward-Monroe County Science Fair held in Miami. Regis Jr. entered a 6006 transmitter and a regenerative receiver with power supply.

George, **W4JFA** received his Technician ticket with the new call of **W4JFA**. Congratulations and good luck with your new ticket.

Field Day plans are being CAREFULLY planned. The decision of letting the "Novices" use the nets during field day has not been reached but is being greatly considered.

Plans are being made for a Novice

class to begin in the near future. If anyone in this class please contact one of the members.

**W4KQR** and **W4LKC** took a trip to the F.C.C. for their General exam and tried hopefully for the Advanced. I sure hope they both passed.

Anyone interested in becoming a member in an ACTIVE club please stop in at Pace Senior High School. Meetings are held every 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month at 7 PM.

Boris W4LKC

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Phone 232-3101



**NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENT** of Tampa Amateur Radio Club (**W4DUG**), Col. Frank J. Shannon, Sr. (**REG**) **K4GT** and **W3QR**. Frank is a member of **ARRL**, **QOXA**, **VVOA**, **AWA** and many other societies. On his first night as president of **TARC**, he received the surprise of his life. See letters to Editor for details. Good luck OM!

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**601 W. 49TH ST. MIAMI**

A new code and theory course will begin May 6th from 7 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday at Pace High School (N.E. class room.) The course will be from May 6th to June 13th. For more information and pre-registration call Jim Miles, **W4ATWD** Miami.



## NO. 16 - A DO-IT-YOURSELF "SKIP-EROO"

By EARL, K4FQL

A chance to scramble things for yourself. The answer to each line is a readily recognized symbol or material used in Amateur Radio. Determine the answer, place it in the boxes at the left so that the circles will represent one of the scrambled letters at the right of the answer box at the bottom. Then unscramble the answer. Send your completed SKIP-EROO to EARL SPENCER, K4FQL. First correct answer will receive a subscription to FLORIDA SKIP and will be published in future issue.



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### PROJECT ARGUS

Broward Amateur Radio Club was very proud to take over as a Club project the construction of Tone Comparators for blind hams. This wonderful activity had previously been carried on by Don Layman, K4GAY, of Hollywood.

These Tone Comparators, greatly refined by Don Layman from the original design, when properly hooked up to a trans-

mitter, enable a blind ham to tune his transmitter by comparing a variable tone with a calibrated reference tone.

These units are being made available to any of Florida's sightless hams and we welcome inquiries from sightless hams elsewhere.

Address your inquiry to E.A. R.C., P.O. Box 8673, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

## DXPEDITIONS

By Ed Cushing, W4QVJ

The Malpelo Island DX-pedition was an operating success of the first and highest degree. Some 6000-plus QSOs were made on all bands including 160 meter CW. Unfortunately both Bill, HK3RQ, and Gabriel, HK3BY were severely injured in the process of landing and were rushed back to the mainland for hospitalization shortly after the main party started operations ashore. Bill suffered a broken knee-cap plus a broken rib and BC Gabriel had a multitude of contusions, bruises and puncture wounds about his body from being buffeted against the rocky cliffs while attempting to land. The United States Navy declared this island "inaccessible" early in WWII and departed after about 2 days of circling the island and trying several landings. The island has had two amateur radio operations to date and chances of this spot being on the air again in the near future are extremely dim inasmuch as surmounting the difficulties require the experience of a certain group of Colombians who made both successful landings. Those Colombians have declared, "Never Again". One of the operators was the intrepid President of the ARRL Bob Denniston, W0DX, and Bill, HK3RQ, of course, is the President of the Colombian League. For those who worked it - and particularly those who made the grade on all 5 bands - congratulations - and may you respect the dangers involved in making this one possible. From the Florida DX Club were W4DQS and W4VPD.

Gus Brown, W4BPD, the Squire of Orangeburg, is once again active and rolling through Africa at this writing enroute to a rendezvous with VQ8CC and some pyrotechnics in the Indian Ocean. Current DX information sources should be followed to "track" Gus and his antics. Gus is one of the "pros" in the dx-peditioning business and to hear Gus conduct the pile-up once it gets big and starts to become unruly is like seeing and watching the late Toscanini dealing with recalcitrant French hornists who are always two bars behind the score. A tip for those who stumble into a Gus pile up... keep your Q-signals handy and watch for a very fast QRM, or a

QLM... Gus likes to throw these in when the pile-up is bit noisy and starting to misbehave... look them up, they can get you a quick QSO while the other sleepy-heads are still wasting their time.

Gus should be good for many a new country for the beginning or intermediate stage long term dx-er. For the 5-band dx affair that started this year Gus will be a gold mine of cards because the QSLs are easy to get, the countries will be at least semi-rare and Gus will operate 160-10 with CW and at least 80-10 on ssb.

And speaking of the 5-band dx-er word is spreading that a W8 has a stack of cards almost ready - just needs a few. Also a South Florida (Hollywood) veteran of the dx-wars has a bunch. Don't bet against the first 5-band award being made with cards dated in 1989 and being made shortly before the end of the year!! Remember you read it bear (here), y'hear. 73.

Ed.

### HAM RADIO AT AFCEA 1969

On-the-air Ham Radio facilities will be provided by the U.S. Navy's Washington voice in the amateur radio fraternity, K4NAA, operating daily from the Sheraton Park Hotel in Washington, D.C. during the three days of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association Convention in June. AFCEA convention delegates with amateur radio licenses are invited to take advantage of the Navy's ham radio station to contact friends during the convention on June 3, 4 and 5.

The K4NAA fixed portable station will be operational from 0900 to 2200 EST with two available positions for CW and SSB on the 10, 15, 20, 40, and 80 meter bands.

A specially designed QSL card has been prepared to acknowledge contacts with licensed amateurs throughout the world who are invited to make contact during the AFCEA convention.

Project officers for the exhibit are Lieutenant J. F. Fagan, Jr., and Lieutenant Junior Grade K. H. Pearce.

The Navy and AFCEA invite all amateur radio enthusiasts to visit K4NAA on June 3, 4, and 5.



# Florida SKIP DIRECTORY

*Each month you will find the following listings. Keep it handy. ARRL Officials are listed free. Florida Nets are listed free upon notification from net manager. (Clubs listed for \$12.00 per year. (Free to clubs taking box ads elsewhere.) Any individual amateur may be listed for \$5.00 a year. (The ones who really care.) Let's fill up this page!*

## ARRL LISTINGS

Director, S.E. Division  
**CHARLES BOLVIN K4KQ**  
2210 S.W. 27th Lane  
Miami, Florida 33133

Vice Director, S.E. Div.  
**A.L. HAMEL, K4SJH**  
220 N.E. 25th Street  
Pompano Beach, Fla. 33064

SCM E. Fla.  
**WILLIAM G. BLASINGAME  
W4NEV**  
716 Magnolia Street  
Neptune Beach, Fla. 32050

SCM West Florida  
**FRANK M. BUTLER, Jr. W4RXH**  
323 Elliott Rd., S.E.  
Ft. Walton Beach, Fla. 32548

SEC East Florida  
**ANDY CLARK, W4IYT**  
41 Lenape Drive  
Miami Springs, Fla. 33166

SEC West Florida  
**G.D. McKECHNIE, W4IKB**  
1000 N. 8th Street  
Chipley, Florida 32428

Asst. SEC East Florida  
**TOM CHISHOLM, W4FP**  
P.O. Box 7273  
Lakeland, Florida 33803

## NET LISTINGS

**QFN (all Florida)**  
Daily 6:30 and 10 p.m.  
3651 kc. Net Managers  
**KALAN/K4EHY**

**FSBA Sundays**  
5 p.m. on 3940 kc.

**FSBEN Wednesday**  
7:30 p.m. on 3940 kc.

**KNIGHTS OF KILOCYCLE,**  
Sundays  
7:30 a.m. on 3910 kc.

**GATOR NET (GN)**  
Daily 8:30 a.m. on 7115 kc.  
Net manager: **K4CDO**

**TROPICAL PHONE TRAFFIC  
NET (TPTN)**  
Daily except Sun., 5 p.m. on  
3945 kc.  
Net Manager: **WB4EDP**

**FLA. AMATEUR SIDEBAND  
TRAFFIC NET**  
(FAST) Daily except Sat.  
5 p.m. on 3940 kc.  
Net Manager: **W44TWD**

**WEST FLORIDA PHONE NET  
(WFPN)**  
5 p.m. on 3957 kc 12300Z  
Net Manager: **W44AYX**

**FLA. PHONE TRAFFIC  
NET** Mon. thru Sat.,  
7 a.m. on 3945 kc. Net  
Mgr: **W44C7Q**

**NOVICE HURRICANE NET**  
(NHN) Sat. & Sun.  
1830Z on 7165 kc.  
Net Manager: **WB4FLW**

**LAKE OKEECHOBEE  
TRAFFIC NET**  
2 Mts. 145.2 Mhz.  
Wed. 2000 Local  
Net Mgr.: **WB4BMR**

**GOLD COAST EMERGENCY  
NET**  
6 Mts. 50.445 mc Mon. 2000 local  
2 Mts. 145.23 mc Tues. 2000 local  
**WB4CKY**, EC Broward Co., Mgr.

**FLA. MIDDAY TRAFFIC NET**  
Daily except Sun. at 12 noon  
EST on 7230 kc. Net Mgr. **W4SDR**  
**CLUB LISTING**

**BROWARD AMATEUR RADIO  
CLUB W4AB**  
2nd Wednesday, 8 p.m.  
25 S.W. Ninth Street  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 8673  
Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33310  
More info. call 522-2605, 522-5674

**LAKE AMATEUR RADIO ASSN.,  
INC., W4YKY**  
Meets each Thurs., 8 p.m., EST  
Clubhouse, Springdale Ave.,  
Bassville Pk., between Leesburg  
and Tavares, Florida  
Mail to Sec., 1270 Sheridan Rd.,  
Mount Dora, Fla. 32757  
Phone: 383-4548

**HILLSBOROUGH AMATEUR  
RADIO SOCIETY, INC. W4GJJ**  
Meets 4th Tuesday, 7:30 P.M.  
Odd Fellows Temple  
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**DADE RADIO CLUB, INC.**  
(W4NVU) 1st & 3rd Tuesday,  
Museum of Science 8 p.m.  
3280 So. Miami Avenue  
Miami, Florida  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 73  
Biscayne Annex  
Miami, Florida 33152

**NORTH FLORIDA AMATEUR  
RADIO SOCIETY W4IZ**  
2nd Thursday, 7:30 P.M.  
Duval CD Headquarters  
107 Market Street  
Jacksonville, Fla. 32202

**ST. PETERSBURG AMATEUR  
RADIO CLUB, Inc. W4GAC**  
Meetings: 1st Friday  
FPC Lineman's Assembly Hall,  
25th St. & 25th Ave., N.  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4026  
For information phone:  
544-1856 or 526-6731

**ORLANDO AMATEUR RADIO  
CLUB, INC. - W4PLB**  
1st Tuesday each month, 8 p.m.  
First Nat'l Bank of Mainland  
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Orlando, Fla. 32809  
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**FLORIDORA YLs (W4FE)**  
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Mailing Address:  
Cathy Soehl, W4BAV  
647 Jungle Way  
Sarasota, Fla. 33580  
Nets: Tues., 1400Z on 3933

**GAINESVILLE AMATEUR RA-  
DIO SOCIETY, K4DPZ** 1st Tues.  
8:00 pm, Alachua CD Head-  
quarters Basement, County  
Court House, Mailing Ad-  
dress: 1421 SW 13th Ave.,  
Gainesville, Fla. 32601

**TAMPA AMATEUR RADIO  
CLUB, INC. W4DUG**  
Meetings: 1st & 3rd Mondays  
7:30 p.m.  
Club House, Davis Islands,  
Columbus & Barbados  
Mailing Address: 943 Commer-  
on Ave., Tampa, Fla. 33603

**SARASOTA AMATEUR RADIO  
ASSN. INC.**  
Meets 3rd Tuesday of each month  
8 p.m.  
At Sarasota Federal (S. Gate Branch)  
Club Call W4IE in memory of  
Charlie Service

**SOUTH MIAMI RADIO CLUB, Inc.**  
**K4JVA**  
1st & 3rd Friday, 8 P.M.  
Kendall Methodist Church  
7600 S.W. 104th St., Miami, Fla.  
33166  
More info call:  
446-2478 or 667-4564

## WHISPERINGS FROM AN ASSISTANT SEC

By Tom Chisholm  
W4FP Ex 2CY

It appears that all EC reports are now in for the 1989 SET. Although the total points (1987) is below last year (2057) participation has taken a jump from 13 to 16. The EC's of Charlotte-Sarasota and Hardee county made this possible.

No reports were received by the SEC from the following counties in E. FL and as all SET reports were due at ARRL and the SEC not later than March 16, 1989 it can be assumed that the following counties did not participate in the SET hence have nothing to report. Bradford, DeSoto, Flagler-Volusia, Highlands, Levy, Martin, Monroe, Okeechobee, St. Lucia, St. Johns, Marion-Sumpter.

I do know that at least two of the EC's had a valid reason for not being able to take part.

Although total points are very impressive, they are in many cases the result of a large AREC membership with plenty of Red Cross Chapters and other service agencies, and with this, the actual participation can be poor, and yet the score will be very impressive.

The 1970 SET is just about 7 months away. The SET performance of each Section is judged and scored by ARRL as follows. There are four categories: (1) TOTAL NO. OF EC/RO REPORTS RCVD. (2) NO. OF MAILED REPORTS. (3) NO. OF RADIO REPORTS. (4) TOTAL POINTS SCORED IN SET. From this it is obvious that "points alone, do not a SET make". For example, in the 1968 SET E. FL. totalled 2067 with 13 reports. The ranking points judged was 9. The perfect score would have been 4 resulting from first place in all 4 categories.

73-CUL

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FOR SALE: Sonar, mod, CFC, All band VFO-driver, good condition, Lettine Mod. B43 5 meter transmitter, good condition, All band HB AM transmitter in 5 foot rack. 300 watt AM-CW. Tubes, 1 PL172, 813, 4E27, 4-65, 415, 6146B, transmit variables wide spaced and other parts. WANTED and will trade for Matchbox, tape recorder or small receiver. Earl Spencer, W4VQU, 1413 Davis Dr., Ft. Myers, Fla. 33901.

FOR SALE: Heathkit HW-32 with steel cabinet, HW-20 power supply, HW-24 speaker, GN-12 mike, \$135.00. HA-14 linear amplifier, HP-24 power supply \$300.00. HDP-21 PTT mike with stand, cord and plug \$12.50. HD-10 monitor scope \$80.00. All in excellent and working condition. Instructions books included. W. S. Haslam, W4EKJ, 274 Tropic Dr., Ft. Lauderdale by the Sea, Fla. Phone 366-365-1313.

FOR SALE: Hammarlund 120C \$225.00. realigned year ago, F. R. McCullough, W4WH, Rte. A-2, Box 182-B, Dunnellon, FL 32639. Phone 489-2443.

FOR SALE: My-Gain vertical antenna 14-3VQ and 60 meter load coil \$15.00. F. W. Borison, 7235 N.E. 8th Ave., Miami, Fla. (Paid Adv.)

FOR SALE: HD-10 electronic keyer \$25.00. WANTED: used tri-band beam, prefer mosley, Raymond L. Peterson K4ASZ, 2160 Alexander Dr., Titusville, FL 32780.

FOR SALE: SWAN 350 with 117AC supply, speaker and extra set of finals \$330.00 or WID swap for Collins 75S3. Collins 75S3 \$265.00. SP-600JX (have sale receipt) \$200.00 Tom Hodges K4GCE, 1615 E. Madison Dr., Pensacola, FL 32505 Phone 904-456-2341.

STOLEN HEATH EQUIPMENT. SB-400 transmitter, SB-300 receiver and SB-200 Linear Amp. Stolen from Tampa Amateur Radio Club house, on Davis Island, Tampa. Any info contact F. J. Shannon, Sr., K4GT, Pres. TARC, 140 Bosphorus Ave., Tampa, FL 33606 Phone 813-251-5346.

SWAP: Milen 3220 1KW transmatch with manual, perfect for Johnson 250-23-3 Matchbox. L. Wolford W4AGP, 3500 - 66th St., North, St. Petersburg, FL 33710

FOR SALE: Heath HD-30, 6 meter SSB, AM & SSB and c.w. and Heath HA-20 linear \$175.00. RTTY model 15 printer, reper, TD with home brew TV toroid tuned, 450 and 170 cycle shift with AFSK built in, the whole group at \$150.00. Eico 720 80-10 transmitter \$35.00. BC-348 converted rack mounted \$50.00. C. Seal W4GRK, 4036 Bonita Dr., St. Petersburg, FL 33705 Phone 894-7078. (Paid adv.)

FOR SALE: JOHNSON 1 new modulation star and 6146B. Very clean with manual. Perfect FD, Novice or stand-by rig. 160 thru 10 meters. \$85.00. Dow-Key Coax relay, 110 v.a.c. coil \$9.00. B&W KW manual exc. linear switch \$4.50. Heath Balun H-184.00. SWAN 500-C with SWAN 117XC power supply, speaker and manual, like new \$440.00. Duomatic Electronic Keyer Model AKS-7 with paddle \$25.00. Andy Clark W4YRT, 41 Lenape Dr., Miami Springs, Fla. 33166 Phone 885-3874.

WANTED: Hallicrafters SX-100, MUST BE CLEAN in excellent condition. Hank Projanaky W1GGI/4, 1569 Jefferson Ave., Miami Beach, FL 33139 Phone 532-5998.

FOR SALE: Johnson Ranger I transmitter \$80.00. Heathkit HR-10 80-10 receiver \$45.00. Dow Coax relay \$10.00. All for \$125.00. Also ART-13 and homebrew power supply \$50.00. Will ship Ranger and HR-10 collect. Bruce Durrant WB4DKX, 2110 Joyner Dr., Tallahassee, FL 32303.

FOR SALE: Heathkit Model HD-10 electronic keyer, \$34.00. Mike Rankin K4KUZ, 13315 NE 6th Ave., North Miami, FL 33161

FROM ESTATE of W4JM, Ameco 621 \$40.00. AMECO TX-62 \$105.00. Johnson Match Box \$105.00. Mrs. R. E. Vermillion, 218 Edge Ave., Valparaiso, Fla. 32590.

CQ de W2KLUW. 5% bonus paid over market for any tube, transmitter, receiver, etc. We pay freight. Ted Dames Co., 308 Hickory St., Arlington, NJ 07032. (Paid adv.)

FOR SALE: Heath HD-10 phone patch with manual \$30.00. Heath HQ-13 Ham Scan (panoramic receiver monitor) with manual \$50.00. B&W Model 380-B T-R switch \$12.00. Turner model 254-C mike with PTT desk stand \$7.00. All fully guaranteed, postage paid in Florida. All four items, package \$81.00. W. R. Kibbe, W4GCD, 1875 Belterose Dr., East, Clearwater, Fla. 33516. (Paid adv.)

WANTED: Mosley TA-33 Jr. in good condition. Ed. Golden WB4KDR, 32 S.W. Flamingo Dr., Jensen Beach, FL 33457 Phone 305-257-2635.

FOR SALE: Hallicrafters SX-36 receiver. Good condition \$75.00. E. J. Norvath W4ENY, 5550 Limeswood Dr., Holiday, Fla. 33589.

FOR SALE: Heath HP-23 and GP-11 power supplies. Dale Meyers W4BDM, 740 E. Burgess Rd., Pensacola, Fla. 32504.

FOR SALE: SWAN 500 with 117XC, VX-5, 22VGO adapter, model 405, MARS adapter \$450.00. C. Fowkes, 200 SW 18th St., Pompano Beach, FL 33060 Phone 933-2076. (Paid adv.)

FOR SALE: HT-37 drake 2B-BQ combo. In excellent condn. HT-17 \$200.00 Drake with all crystals \$190.00 E.W. Ljongsjuit W4DWK, 1655 Meridian Rd., West Palm Beach, FL Phone 683-5887.

## HOW ABOUT THAT?

Just to show you how the times change while you're not looking, here is a little tid-bit from a telephone trade magazine called "Telephone Engineer and Management."

In answer to a question posed by one of their readers, the following bit of technical data comes to light.

"At a meeting in 1967, the Advisory Committee on Units of the International Committee of Weights and Measures modified the definition of 'ampere'. The ampere (A) is that constant current which, if maintained in two straight parallel conductors of infinite length, of negligible circular cross-section, and placed 1 meter apart in vacuum, would produce between these conductors, a force equal to  $2 \times 10^{-7}$  Newton per meter of length."

The Missouri doubtfulness in me casts an eye to those two straight parallel conductors of infinite length and negligible cross-section placed 1 meter apart in a vacuum. It sounds like two hair wires strung on cross arms out through space

FOR SALE: B. T. I. \$2,000 Waltham with 3-1000Z latest model, very little use. \$520.00. FCB. Charles R. Crowley WA4EDW, 2310 Manatee Ave. W., Bradenton, FL 33505 Phone 745-9691 or 747-3272.

FOR SALE: HW-12 complete with a.c. supply and steel cabinet \$100.00 FCB Power unit has less than 6 hours use. HW-12 is in beautiful condn. John Webb W4NE, 818 Obispo Ave., Coral Gables, FL 33134.

FOR SALE: Brand new Hy-Gainquad, rotator, crank-up tower. All Complete for \$150.00 Also complete station bargain, mostly drake equipment. See it: W. G. Watson K4APE, 2550 N.E. 30th Terr., North Miami Beach, Fla. 33160 Phone 945-6487. (Paid adv.)

Business is what - when you don't have any - you go out of.

to Pluto or farther. I'd like to meet the cat that pulled off this experiment. He sure shot my Ohm's Law all to the dickens.

I keep wondering just how far wrong I have been all these years.

This might upset my chances for Extra Class too.

(W3TZW-Etka Oscillator)

## COMING EVENTS

Each month SKIP hopes to print all upcoming events statewide. Have you sent in yours?

Apr. 26-27	Orlando Hamfest
Apr. 26	Joint QCWA Meeting at Orlando Hamfest
May 17	Armed Forces Day
May 18	St. Pete Hamfest
June 28-29	Field Day
Sept. 13	Platinum Coast ARS Hamfest

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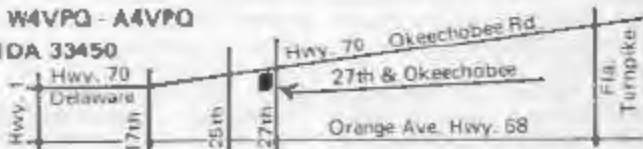
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TAKING PART IN OPERATION WHIRLWIND, back row, standing: W4SCY, Emma KYI of W4EDP, K5GHS, WA4WZZ, WA4NBE, W4CNA; Comm. Thornhill; C.D. Director Gunn; FSBN Mgr. W4OVE. Front row kneeling: K4ASP; W4EDP & Jr. ops; W4IAD; W4TND; K4EBO; WA4YNW; and W4PFH. Extreme front: Jr. op. of W4CNA, Doug. For details, see OPERATION WHIRLWIND elsewhere.

—photo via W4OVE

## Operation Whirlwind

By V. V. Vogel, W4OVE

A Hurricane on March 30th? What type weather forecasting do you have? So said the editor of the Tampa Daily Times when informed that there would be a hurricane with accompanying tornadoes hitting the Bartow, Florida vicinity on March 30th. Then we got down to brass tacks.

Operation Whirlwind was dreamed up by the Florida Sidebanders Emergency Net, to be effected by a 100% mobile operation. The plan called for mobile stations to converge on the city of Bartow at 1400 EST on March 30, and to simulate hurricane and accompanying tornadoes hitting the area. They would be directed to the various places of necessity in Bartow, i.e. Sheriff's office, Police Station, Fire Station, City Hall, Civic Center, and schools. Where possible, the station going to that position was to go to the office and find the name of the individual in charge, and report his services to him, then come back on the mobile and report the name to Net Control. On March 30, 1969 FSBN Net Manager, W4OVE reported to Lucky K4EBO at the CD Radio Station in Bartow. Lucky and Ed, K4EBE had already notified the various city and county officials and had some preliminary publicity in the papers and by word of mouth. OVE and EBO started plans in earnest at 12:30 P.M. and by 1400 everything was setting on Ready. The thundering herd of Mobiles started checking in, and took their assignment in such a man-

ner that it seemed it was the REAL thing. They were dispatched here and there, including sending one to an Honest to Goodness Truck-Train wreck. Dale, W4CNA couldn't believe his eyes when he arrived at that one. Then as the assignments were completed the various mobiles were directed to the CD Radio Station, the whole operation was completed in just exactly One Hour.

After picture taking, greeting etc., everyone adjourned to Peace River Park for a picnic lunch and comments. We had covered every major governmental facility including the city of Mulberry, and had had a very successful operation. W4FCP was the Base Standby out of the disaster area, and took the checkins from around the state. Lucky was invaluable to the Net Manager in knowing the streets, directions and in general being on top of the whole operation. WA4NBE showed us the latest in Loud Pants, and Bart W4SCY kept us busy staying LOST. He also managed to park in a NO PARKING zone at the Police station, then tried to take the canopy off with his antenna, zooming away. Lucky made immediate arrangements with Commissioner, J. B. Thornhill, Jr. so that Bart didn't have to vacation there for 10 days.

The operation proved that such a group could function, and also showed many things by experience. The difficulty strangers have in finding various places was a glaring one, and



OPERATING INSIDE THE CD Center at Bartow during OPERATION WHIRLWIND were, seated: Bob, W4PFH; Vance, W4OVE FSBN Mgr.; K4EBO; Lucky. Standing: Lou, K4ASP; and WA4YNW, Gen. Let's do it again, gang.

—photo via W4OVE

the need of a good city map at the Net Control to assist the stations is a necessity.

Observers of the operation were: County Commissioner J. B. Thornhill, Jr. and Wes Gunn, County Civil Defense Director, and Ken WA4WZZ New EC Polk County. All expressed satisfaction and pleasure in the operation and invited us back. As yet we know not which city will be picked for the next one. We had a total of 16 Hams, 8 others,

and 10 Mobile stations in Bartow, including K5GHS from Dallas, Texas, who was passing through and joined in. We had two other mobiles check in and 8 fixed stations.

Amateurs at Bartow are listed on accompanying photograph. Amateurs checking in from other areas of the state to W4FCP were: WA4BMC/M, — W3PRD/M4 — W4PBK — W4WXS — K4KE — W4BNH.

## FCC ACTS TO REVOKE AMATEUR LICENSES

The Federal Communications Commission took action today to revoke the operator licenses of three Amateur Radio Service operators on charges of obscene, indecent or profane radio communications. The Commission ordered Steven P. Bowman, (W4GHO) of Sikeston, Mo; Kenneth C. Henry, (W4OKYU) of Anderson, Ind., and Gary Overman, (W4JKEA) of New Castle, Ind., to show cause why their licenses should not be revoked. The three operator licenses were also ordered to be suspended.

In addition to the obscenity charges, other violations included transmission of false or deceptive signals or communications, failure to identify stations properly, transmission of unidentified communications or signals and willful or malicious interference to radio communications of other amateur stations.

The Commission said that the three amateur licensees had repeatedly and willfully violat-

## THE RM's CORNER

Q. I don't know an awful lot about local radio clubs, but from what I've heard a lot of it is just a bunch of yakking and socializing.

A. Getting together with people who share a common interest is part of it of course. And why not? However, most clubs do a good deal more — theory courses, civil defense activity, contests and field days, and so on. They're also a forum for exchanging help with technical and other problems. Their programs and other activities can help you get even more pleasure from ham radio.

Reg — W4ILE

ed the Rules. The enforcement actions followed investigations carried out by the FCC Field Engineering Bureau and the FBI after complaints were received from other amateur radio operators.

Actions by the Commission March 14, 1968, by its Chief, Safety and Special Radio Services Bureau. By Orders, and Orders to Show Cause.